

-11-

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An optical instrument comprising:

- 5 • at least one binocular viewing port defining at least one binocular ^{0, b} beam path which has two channels; (L, R)
- an imaging² module,
- a display³ module, 11-14
- 10 • a plurality^a of beam splitters for reflecting a portion of the beam^a path out onto the imaging module² toward the viewing port, and for reflecting into one channel (data or ₃ images) that have been made available on the display module, wherein the
- 15 imaging module and the display module are arranged in stationary fashion with respect to the optical instrument; and
- at least one optical switcher^{4, 5} provided for the imaging module and the display module that ^(S, b) ^(A, a) optically connects the respective module to the
- 20 beam splitter in the one or the other channel.

2. The optical instrument as defined in Claim 1, wherein the optical switchers are rotatable prisms.

- 25 3. The optical instrument as defined in Claim 1, wherein the optical switchers are slidable prisms.

6.36
112, 1^d

4. The optical instrument as defined in Claim 2, wherein the prisms are rhomboid prisms.

-12-

5. The optical instrument as defined in Claim 3,
wherein the prisms are rhomboid prisms.
- 5 6. The optical instrument as defined in Claim 1,
wherein the imaging module¹ and the display module³
are optically connected to different channels of the
binocular beam path.
- 10 7. The optical instrument as defined in Claim 6,
wherein the optical switchers^{4,5} of the imaging module²
and of the display module are coupled to one another
in such a way that the imaging module and the
display module cannot be connected simultaneously to
the same channel.
- 15 8. The optical instrument as defined in Claim 7,
wherein the optical switchers of the imaging module
and of the display module, configured as prisms, are
arranged on the same shaft⁶.
- 20 9. The optical instrument as defined in Claim 1,
wherein the beam splitters are beam splitter prisms
or beam splitter cubes.
- 25 10. The optical instrument as defined in Claim 1,
wherein the optical instrument is a microscope
having a binocular viewing port.
- 30 11. The optical instrument as defined in Claim 1,
wherein the optical instrument is a stereo
microscope having a binocular viewing port.

- 6.36 12. The instrument or device as defined in Claim 1,
wherein at least two optical switchers, which have
different functions, are provided for the imaging
module and the display module.]

SECRET